

REMARKS

Claims 5-21 are pending. Claims 5-21 were previously allowed. By way of the foregoing amendment, new claims 22-25 are added. Support for the new claims amendment can be found in the specification, *inter alia*, at page 17, lines 1-4, and Figs. 5A-5C. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. Claims 15 and 16 have been amended to correct a typographical error..

Claim 22 recites "a pair of endless coating belts which are vertically spaced at a predetermined interval so as to be mutually opposed and rotated in opposite directions, said endless coating belts being brought into contact with an upwardly projecting surface of an aluminum component to be introduced between a clearance between opposing portions of said endless coating belts...."

Applicants respectfully submit that the invention recited in claim 22 is patentable over the references of record. For example, claim 22 is patentable over Sprengling (previously applied in a rejection of original claim 14 (see paper no. 4, dated January 29, 2002). Sprengling discloses steel belts 25 that are not "coating" belts. Sprengling discloses that a dry (not a "fluid mixture") resin powder is applied to a fibrous sheet (not "an aluminum component") before the sheet comes in contact with the steel belts 25.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, claims 22 and claims 23-25, which depend from claim 22, are patentable over the references of record.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Conclusi n

If applicants have not accounted for any fees required by this Amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to our Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If applicants have not accounted for a required extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, that extension is requested and the corresponding fee should be charged to our Deposit Account.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made (Claims)

15. (Twice Amended) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 14, wherein a clearance between the pair of [presser] pressure plates in a vicinity of a fin inlet side is set greater than a height of the [corrugated] component.

16. (Twice Amended) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 15, wherein end portions at the fin inlet side of respective [presser] pressure plates are tapered outward.